Appl. No.: 10/543,028

Amdt. dated March 3, 2008

Reply to Office Action of December 3, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A cutting head for a brush cutter[[,]] or edge trimmer, or similar, of the type the cutting head comprising a plurality of string outlets (115) for a plurality of cutting strings (300), characterized in that the axes of the cutting string outlets are distributed in at least two planes (Pac, Pcb) mutually spaced by a distance (H2) greater than or equal to approximately 1.8 times the height (H1) of each string, in that in each plane the respective string outlets are at the same level, and in that in all planes the direction of rotation of the head is the same.
- 2. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the at least two planes (Pac, Pcb) are mutually spaced by a distance (H2) less than or equal to between approximately 1.8 times the height (H1) of each string and approximately 5 times the height (H1) of each string.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that in the peripheral direction of the head, the strings (300) exiting in a first plane (Pac) are alternated with the strings exiting in a second plane (Pcb) adjacent to the first.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 3, characterized in that in the peripheral direction of the head, the strings (300) exit the head in a regularly distributed manner.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 4, characterized in that two strings (300) are provided exiting in a first plane (Pac) in diametrically opposed regions, and two strings exiting in a second plane (Pcb) adjacent to the first, in diametrically opposed regions also, and in that the string outlets (115) are distributed approximately every 90° in the peripheral direction.

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- 6. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that each string (300) has a ridge, and in that the head comprises means (115,120) for maintaining each string in an orientation such that [[its]] the cutting ridge of the string is in a position to lead the attack on [[the]] plants.
- 7. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 6, characterized in that each string (300) has a substantially square section and is oriented with two opposite ridges situated substantially in the plane (Pac; Pcb) containing the axis of the corresponding string outlet (115).
- 8. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the head is implemented by assembling parts (110) of general disc shape defining string semichannels (120) opposite one another and suitable for together forming string channels concealed in the head.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 8, characterized in that the spacing (H2) between the planes (Pac, Pcb) of the string outlets is defined by the thickness of an intermediate part (110e) comprising on one face semi-channels for the strings of an upper plane and on an opposite face semi-channels for the strings of a lower plane.
- 10. (Currently Amended) A vegetation cutting device such as a brush cutter[[,]] or edge trimmer, or similar, characterized in that [[it]] the cutting device comprises a motor suitable for driving in rotation a cutting head (100) according to Claim 1.

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- 11. (New) A cutting head for a brush cutter or edge trimmer, the cutting head comprising a plurality of string outlets for a plurality of cutting strings, wherein the string outlets are distributed in a plurality of mutually spaced planes, wherein the mutually closest two said planes are mutually spaced from each other by a distance (H2) that is greater than or equal to approximately 1.8 times the height (H1) of each string, and wherein the cutting head is constructed to rotate all said string outlets together in a common rotational direction.
- 12. (New) A cutting head according to Claim 11, wherein the mutually closest two said planes are mutually spaced from each other by a distance (H2) that is between approximately 1.8 times the height (H1) of each string and approximately 5 times the height (H1) of each string.